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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/030,157	01/30/2002	Philippe Robert	218251US6 XPCT	1462

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OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
1940 DUKE STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

[REDACTED] EXAMINER

GUERRERO, MARIA F

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2822	

DATE MAILED: 06/27/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Offic Action Summary

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/030,157	ROBERT, PHILIPPE
Examiner	Art Unit	
Maria Guerrero	2822	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 December 2002.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 11-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 11 and 18-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 12-17 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3. 6) Other:

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to the preliminary amendment filed January 30, 2002. This is the First Action on the merits.

Claims 1-10 are canceled.

Claims 11-20 are pending.

Priority

2. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Specification

3. The following guidelines illustrate the preferred layout for the specification of a utility application. These guidelines are suggested for the applicant's use.

Arrangement of the Specification

As provided in 37 CFR 1.77(b), the specification of a utility application should include the following sections in order. Each of the lettered items should appear in upper case, without underlining or bold type, as a section heading. If no text follows the section heading, the phrase "Not Applicable" should follow the section heading:

- (a) TITLE OF THE INVENTION.
- (b) CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS.
- (c) STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT.
- (d) INCORPORATION-BY-REFERENCE OF MATERIAL SUBMITTED ON A COMPACT DISC (See 37 CFR 1.52(e)(5) and MPEP 608.05. Computer program listings (37 CFR 1.96(c)), "Sequence Listings" (37 CFR 1.821(c)), and tables having more than 50 pages of text are permitted to be submitted on compact discs.) or
REFERENCE TO A "MICROFICHE APPENDIX" (See MPEP § 608.05(a). "Microfiche Appendices" were accepted by the Office until March 1, 2001.)
- (e) BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION.
 - (1) Field of the Invention.

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- (2) Description of Related Art including information disclosed under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
- (f) BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION.
- (g) BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWING(S).
- (h) DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION.
- (i) CLAIM OR CLAIMS (commencing on a separate sheet).
- (j) ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE (commencing on a separate sheet).
- (k) SEQUENCE LISTING (See MPEP § 2424 and 37 CFR 1.821-1.825. A "Sequence Listing" is required on paper if the application discloses a nucleotide or amino acid sequence as defined in 37 CFR 1.821(a) and if the required "Sequence Listing" is not submitted as an electronic document on compact disc).

Information Disclosure Statement

4. The information disclosure statement filed January 30, 2002 has been considered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

- (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 11 and 18-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Akram et al. (U.S. 6,013,948).

Akram et al. teaches hollowing into a substrate, from the rear-face side, cavities having a depth and a cross-section with are defined to delimit studs in order to provide electrical conduction between the front and rear faces of the substrate (Abstract, Fig.

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6A-6F, col. 4, lines 1-60, col. 6, lines 10-35). Akram et al. shows filling the cavities with a dielectric material (SiO₂ (glass)) to insulate the stud from the rest of the substrate and to integrate the stud with the substrate (Fig.1, 6F, 7D, 10, col. 7, lines 60-67, col. 8, lines 1-10). Akram et al. discloses hollowing the front face of the substrate to make the studs to show through and converting the studs into a conducting through-connection (Fig. 1, 6A-6F). Akram et al. teaches physically forming points of contact opposite each face by depositing a conducting material, insulated from the substrate, on each of the faces (Fig. 1, Abstract, col. 4, lines 10-55).

Furthermore, Akram et al. shows a substrate of silicon equipped with conducting through-connections between its front face and its rear face (Abstract). Akram et al. shows the conducting through-connections being silicon studs extending over an entire height of the substrate and are surrounded by a dielectric material (Figure 1, col. 7, lines 60-67, col. 8, lines 1-10). Akram et al. discloses points contact being formed opposite each face showing through of the studs with a conductive material insulated from the substrate (Fig. 8A-10, Abstract, col. 4, lines 10-55, col. 7, lines 60-65, col. 8, lines 10-25). Akram et al. shows the silicon studs being coated over by a conducting metallization and surrounded by the dielectric material (Fig.1, col. 4, lines 3-62, col. 8, lines 10-25).

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 12-17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the cited references, either singly or in combination, fails to anticipate or render obvious the steps of: "removing overflows of the dielectric material by thinning the rear face of the substrate until the studs are uncovered"; "metallizing the studs before filling the cavities"; "hollowing the front face of the substrate until the dielectric material contained in the cavities is reached to make the studs show through on the front face of the substrate"; and "depositing an insulating layer on a same side as the faces of the studs showing through and opening a contact region by masking and etching the insulating layer". There is not motivation or suggestion to combine the references in order to meet these limitations.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Bauer et al. (U.S. 4,566,186), Caplet et al. (U.S. 6,392,158), Palmans et al. (U.S. 6,271,135), Ring (U.S. 6,475,889), Kazior et al. (U.S. 5,343,071), Akram et al. (U.S. 5,674,785), Arai (JP 63-193545), and Madou et al. (U.S. 5,056,216) teach a method of forming conducting through connections.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Maria Guerrero whose telephone number is 703-305-0162.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Amir Zarabian can be reached on 703-308-4905. The fax phone numbers

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for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-7722
for regular communications and 703-308-7724 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or
proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-
0956.

Maria Guerrero
Maria Guerrero
Patent examiner
June 20, 2003